

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2016

## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

Kellie Stickney Communications Manager <u>kstickney@bainbridgewa.gov</u> 206.780.3741 (office) 206.786.2342 (cell)

## Public Hearing Regarding Low Impact Development Scheduled for November 22

**Bainbridge Island, Wash.**, (November, 2016) – A Public Hearing will held on Tuesday, November 22 during the City Council Regular Business Meeting regarding proposed changes to the stormwater management regulations.

All Washington cities and counties have been directed by the Washington State Department of Ecology to adopt a new stormwater management manual and complete updates to their code to remove barriers to utilizing low-impact development techniques. In addition to adopting the manual, the City Council will also consider creating a Site Assessment and Development Improvement Permit that would require that a stormwater assessment be completed prior to a project being eligible to submit building permits. The newly created permit would cost approximately \$1500 for under 5000 square feet of hard surface and approximately \$4000 for over 5000 feet of hard surface. The permit would apply to new structures greater than 800 square feet. The new permit and requirements would be similar to those that already exist in Kitsap County.

The proposed changes are also currently under review by the Planning Commission. It is anticipated that the Planning Commission will complete their review during a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16. After the Public Hearing on November 22, if the City Council adopts the manual and approves the creation of the Site Assessment and Development Improvement Permit, the City estimates the new regulations would go into effect the first of the year. Later in 2017, the City plans to work with the Low Impact Development Committee to continue to investigate additional ways the City can encourage low impact development.

More information on the manual and proposed changes will be available in the <u>Planning Commission packet</u> by the evening on Tuesday, November 15. To view the agenda for the November 22 City Council meeting visit the <u>City website</u>.